

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/US 03/41791

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 E02B3/04 E02B3/12 E02D29/02 E02D31/00

10/541134

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 E02B E02D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| X | US 5 902 070 A (BRADLEY ANTHONY S) 11 May 1999 (1999-05-11) | 1-6, 11-17,20 |
| Y | column 12, line 7-29; figure 12 column 13, line 13-23 column 6, line 1-11 | 7,18,19 |
| X | EP 0 267 661 A (NICOLON NV) 18 May 1988 (1988-05-18) | 1,2,14 |
| Y | column 5, line 18-43; claim 1; figures 1-4 | 7,18,19 |
| X | US 4 966 491 A (SAMPLE JAY W) 30 October 1990 (1990-10-30) | 1,14 |
| | column 4, line 56-64 column 5, line 48-63; figure 5 | |
| P,X | EP 1 350 892 A (HUESKER SYNTHETIC GMBH) 8 October 2003 (2003-10-08) | 1,2,14 |
| | column 4, line 16-43; figures 1,2 | |



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

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O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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